

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LIMA 00573 201509Z

62

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EA-07 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 EB-07

COME-00 TRSE-00 STR-04 /063 W

----- 053128

R 201330Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8454

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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GENEVA FOR MTN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EGEN, PFOR, PE, ECIN

SUBJECT: PRESS REPORTS PERU "COSPONSORS" ATTACK ON TRADE ACT

AT SELA MEETING

REFS: LIMA 202, LIMA 73, 75 LIMA 9999, 75 LIMA 9831

1. GOVERNMENT-OPERATED "LA CRONICA" OF JANUARY 17 RAN BANNER HEADLINE STORY ATTACKING TRADE ACT AND NOTING THAT PERUVIAN VICE MINISTER OF ECONOMY AND FINANCE ROBERTO KEIL ROJAS, WHO REPRESENTED PERU AT THE MEETING, TOLD THE PRESS THAT PERU "INSISTED" THAT THERE BE AN EXPLICIT DENUNCIATION BY SELA'S FIRST EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL OF THE U.S. TRADE ACT. ACCORDING TO THE ARTICLE, KEIL SAID THAT SELA COUNTRIES REJECT THE DISCRIMINATORY NATURE OF THE U.S. TRADE ACT. KEIL SAID THAT PERU DECIDED TO EMPHASIZE THIS POINT IN ORDER THAT IT BE TAKEN UP BY THE MANILA MEETING OF THE GROUP OF 77 AND THE FOURTH UNCTAD CONFERENCE IN NAIROBI.

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2. COMMENT: LIMA 9999 POINTED OUT COMMERCE MINISTRY'S

PLEASURE IN THE FACT THAT PERU INCLUDED IN GSP BENEFICIARY STATUS, AND NOTED THAT PERU HOPES TO BENEFIT PRACTICALLY FROM SUCH INCLUSION. EARLIER, AS REPORTED 75 LIMA 9831, BOTH THEN-SECRETARY GENERAL GARCIA BEDOYA AND KEIL HIMSELF EXPRESSED SATISFACTION THAT PERU WOULD BE INCLUDED IN GSP SYSTEM. SINCE THAT TIME, LOCAL PRESS HAS CARRIED OCCASIONAL STORIES CRITICAL OF GSP EXCLUSION ECUADOR AND VENEZUELA, BUT NOTHING APPROACHING APPARENT BROADSIDE THAT KEIL REPORTEDLY MADE WHILE IN CARACAS. WE PRESUME THAT PERUVIANS WILL CONTINUE PRIVATELY TO EXPRESS INTEREST IN GSP BENEFITS, WHILE CONTINUING PUBLIC CRITICISMS TRA IN THIRD WORLD FORA.

DEAN

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